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over one year of service, at the rate of Rs. 4 per head per month with effect from 1st January 1958 excluding those who are drawing more than Rs. 200 a month.

The Board accepted the recommendation of the Committee with the following slight modifications :—

(i) Interim relief was not granted to Junior Engineers and Supervisors;

(ii) staff of clerks, accountants, peons and other categories were granted interim relief subject to the condition that they will not claim any of the concessions that may be extended in future to the non-gazetted employees of the Government from time to time ; and

(iii) the relief was given for a period of six months commencing from the pay earned from 1st March 1958.

The report of the Committee containing its final recommendations is awaited. Time till 29th September 1958 has been granted to the Committee for submission of its final report.

Transport workshop

* 350-G Q.—Sri S. A. ANNAMALAI ODAYAR (on behalf of Sri T. S. Ramaswamy Pillai : Will the Hon. the Minister for industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether any site has been fixed up for the Transport Workshop to be built up in Nagercoil;

(b) whether the site has been acquired or purchased by the Government; and

(c) if so, the price or the rate of compensation and the extent of the land acquired or purchased?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Acquired.

(c) A sum of Rs. 45,000 has been paid for an extent of 14 acres and 26 cents acquired by the Department.

Plantation labourers

* 350-H Q.—Sri S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether 500 plantation workers in the (1) Perinjur Palpurai Estate, (2) Poongulam Estate, (3) St. Mary's Estate, and (4) Thavalakkadu Estate in Palani Hills, Madurai district, have made representations to the Government authorities to get them reinstated ; and

(b) the actions taken by the Government Labour Department to help these workers?

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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) On enquiry, it was found that the workers have voluntarily settled their accounts with the management after receiving notice, pay, retrenchment compensation, etc. The position was also explained to the workers by the Labour Officer, Madurai, on 5th August 1958.

Special Armed Police

MR. SPEAKER : I am now going to introduce an innovation. In Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition does not put questions normally. He is given the special privilege of putting what is called private short notice questions. I asked the Leader of the Opposition if he would like such a procedure being followed here also and he has agreed to it. The Hon. Minister has also agreed to the procedure. I shall now call the first question under this category.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : It has not been circulated.

MR. SPEAKER : Sri V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliyar will read it himself.

* *Private Notice Question* 1.—SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact, that the Special Armed Police is still kept in Ramanathapuram area;

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact, that the Special Armed Police is still committing harassment and striking terror in the mind of the people of that locality?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The Special Armed Police is still stationed in the disturbed taluks of East Ramanathapuram district to maintain Law and Order and to serve regular beats to patrol the area in order to prevent any intimidation or overt act by either party and to infuse confidence in the public.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : In view of the fact that there is complete peace in those areas, is there any necessity to continue these armed forces there?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I am glad to admit that the situation has considerably improved. But still the cases have not been disposed off and therefore the Government consider that some of the arrangements have still to be continued.

MR. SPEAKER : Questions are over.